

Message Text

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TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, SF

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S JULY 26 MEETING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN
AMBASSADOR (WITH PRESS GUIDANCE)

1. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, AT PRESS BRIEFING JULY 26, QUERIED
ABOUT SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR
R.F. BOTHA. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM FOLLOWING EXCERPTS IN
RESPONDING TO LOCAL QUERIES:

2. QUOTE: Q: CAN YOU TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT SECRETARY'S
MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR BOTHA?

A: SECRETARY AND AMBASSADOR MET FOR ABOUT AN HOUR. IN
ADDITION TO SECRETARY AND AMBASSADOR, SECRETARY ALSO
INVITED GENERAL SCOWCROFT (NSC DIRECTOR BRENT SCOWCROFT)
TO SIT IN ON MEETING. I REALLY CANNOT GO INTO SUBSTANCE
OF THEIR TALKS. MEETING IS PART OF OUR PROCESS OF
CONTINUING TO REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH SOUTH AFRICAN
AUTHORITIES. (ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE ALSO ATTENDED
MEETING.)

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3. Q: HAS SOME NEW OBSTACLE ARISEN IN TERMS OF PROCEEDING WITH ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT FORMULA FOR PEACE SETTLEMENT?

A: NO, I WOULD NOT SAY THAT. WE HAVE NEVER CHARACTERIZED PROSPECTS ON THIS PROCESS, SO AS FAR AS I KNOW THERE IS NO REASON TO BE LESS OPTIMISTIC TODAY THAN WHEN WE STARTED THIS PROCESS. WE ARE STILL WORKING HARD ON PROBLEM.

4. Q: WHAT ABOUT POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY AND PRIME MINISTER VORSTER?

A: NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE ON SECOND MEETING.

5. Q: AMBASSADOR BOTHA, AFTERWARD, WITHOUT GOING INTO SPECIFICS, KEPT STRESSING SEVERE PROBLEMS TO BE OVERCOME. YOU SAID YOU HAVE NOT CHARACTERIZED IT. SECRETARY, HOWEVER, HAS TALKED ABOUT EXPLORING WITH BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES AND WITH SOUTH AFRICA, FORMULA BY WHICH PERHAPS NEGOTIATED SOLUTION CAN BE ACHIEVED. IS THERE ANY SUCCESS IN DEVELOPING THAT FORMULA?

A: I JUST AM NOT ABLE TO GO INTO SUBSTANCE. WE ARE CONTINUING TO WORK AT SOLUTION. AND AS FAR AS SEVERE PROBLEMS, WE ACKNOWLEDGED THEM SINCE BEGINNING. INDEED, IT IS VERY SEVERITY OF PROBLEMS WHICH CAUSED US TO TAKE ACTION THAT WE HAVE TAKEN.

6. Q: CAN YOU RULE OUT MEETING NEXT WEEK AS BEING INCLUDED IN SECRETARY'S TRIP?

A: NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE ON THAT. NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE ON SECOND MEETING.

7. Q: IS SECRETARY CONSIDERING ANOTHER MEETING WITH MR. VORSTER?

A: I DO NOT THINK WE HAVE REACHED STAGE WHERE WE ARE READY TO MAKE DECISION ON WHETHER THEY NEED TO MEET AGAIN.

8. Q: BUT HE IS CONSIDERING IT, THEN?
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A: I WOULD NOT EXCLUDE IT. BUT THERE IS NO CHANGE TODAY ON THAT QUESTION SINCE IT WAS FIRST ASKED AFTER FIRST MEETING. UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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